GOVERNMENT OF ANDHRA PRADESH
ABSTRACT

E.F.S. & T. Department – Environment – Ban on Plastic Flexi Banners in the State under Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 w.e.f.01.11.2022 – Notification - Orders - Issued.

ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS, SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY (SEC.I) DEPARTMENT

G.O.Ms.No.65

Dated:22.09.2022.
Read:-

From the Member Secretary, A.P. Pollution Control Board, Vijayawada, Lr.No.APPCB/ UH3/PWM/BPF/2022, dated 06.09.2022.

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ORDER:-

The Hon'ble Chief Minister while participating in the programme on beach cleaning held at Andhra University Convention Centre, Visakhapatnam on 26.08.2022 in association with 'Parley for the Oceans', a Member of Global Alliance for a Sustainable Planet (GASP) announced complete ban on plastic Flexi Banners with immediate effect as a first step to achieve goal of Plastic Free Andhra Pradesh by 2027.

2. Widespread use of plastic Flexi Banners in the state is posing severe threat to environment and public health. Plastic flexi material takes thousands of years to degrade and release toxic fumes into environment, when burnt, with serious implications on public health.

3. In the letter read above, the Member Secretary, A.P. Pollution Control Board, Vijayawada has submitted a proposal for effective implementation of the decision of the Hon'ble Chief Minister on "Ban on Plastic Flexi Banners in the State" and requested to issue Notification in the matter.

4. Article 48-A of Constitution of India, Inter alia envisages that the state shall endeavor to protect and improve the environment.

5. In order to ensure effective implementation of Hon'ble Chief Minister's announcement on banning all type of plastic flexi banners in the state, the following notification is issued under section 5 of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 read with Government of India, Ministry of Environment and Forests Notification S.O. 152(E), dated 10.02.1988.

6. Accordingly, the following notification shall be published in the Extraordinary issue of Andhra Pradesh Gazette, dated:22.09.2022.

NOTIFICATION

In exercise of the powers conferred under section 5 of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 (Central Act 29 of 1986) read with Government of India, Ministry of Environment and Forests Notification S.O. 152(E), dated 10th February, 1988 Government of Andhra Pradesh hereby decided to ban Plastic Flexi Banners in the State with effect from 01.11.2022, hereby issues the following directions.

1. Banning of Plastic Flexi Banners in the State:

(a) No person shall manufacture and import plastic flexi material in the state.

(b) No person shall print, use, transport and display any type of plastic flexi banners in the state.

2. Enforcing Authorities:

(a) Andhra Pradesh Pollution Control Board Represented by Member Secretary, Concerned Unit Head, Zonal Officer, Regional Officer shall be the enforcing authority to enforce ban on manufacturing, import of plastic flexi material and printing of plastic flexi banners in their respective jurisdiction.

(PTO)

(b) Municipal Commissioners of Urban Local Bodies including Health Officers, Sanitary Inspectors, Sanitary and Environment Secretary of Ward Secretariat shall be the enforcing authority for enforcing ban on usage, transport and display of all types of plastic flexi banners in their respective jurisdiction of Urban Areas.

(c) District Collector and Officers empowered by the District Collector including CEO - Zilla Parishad, District Panchayat Officer, Divisional Level Panchayat Officer, Mandal Parishad Development Officer, Panchayat Secretary - Village Secretariat shall be the enforcing authority for enforcing ban on usage, transport and display of all types of plastic flexi banners in their respective jurisdiction of Rural Areas.

3. **Levy of Penalty:** Enforcing Authorities are empowered to levy and collect penalty @ Rs. 100/- per sq ft of banned plastic flexi banners from violators.

4. **Seizure of Banned Material:** Respective Enforcing Authorities are also empowered to seize the banned plastic flexi banners and send for scientific disposal at the cost of violators.

5. **Prosecution:** Violators are also liable for prosecution under Environment (Protection) Act, 1986.

6. **Role of Other Departments:** Revenue, Police, Transport and GST Authorities shall assist the enforcing authorities for effective enforcement of Plastic Flexi banners ban Notification.

7. **Switch over to Alternative Banner Materials:** Authorities of Industries and Commerce Department shall assist the enterprises by ensuring availability of cotton banner material.

7. The Member Secretary, Andhra Pradesh Pollution Control Board, Vijayawada shall take further action in the matter.

(BY ORDER AND IN THE NAME OF THE GOVERNOR OF ANDHRA PRADESH)

NEERABH KUMAR PRASAD
SPECIAL CHIEF SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT

To
The Commissioner, Printing Stationary & Stores Purchase, Vijayawada (with a request to publish the Notification in Andhra Pradesh Gazette and supply 50 copies of the same Gazette).
All the Secretariat Departments, A.P. Secretariat.
All the Head of the Departments in the State.
All the District Collectors in the State.
The Chairman, A.P. Pollution Control Board, Vijayawada.
The Member Secretary, A.P. Pollution Control Board, Vijayawada.
Copy to:-
The PS to Spl. CS to CM.
The PS to M. (Energy, EFS&T, M&G).
The PS to CS.
The PS to Spl. CS (EFS&T).
The PS to Spl. Secy., (EFS&T).
SF / SC (computer No.1837382).

// FORWARDED::BY ORDER //

SECTION OFFICER